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# 'Peace advocates duped'

Having recently returned with the "peace delegation" of the American Friends Service Committee, Fellowship of Reconciliation and Clergy and Laymen Concerned, I was interested to read in your March 12 paper the statements of five Chicagoans stating that the American delegation was "ideologically uptight and intransigent."

This statement is typical from the group which bought the Hanoi line from the beginning of the trip until we returned home and which never looked farther into the issues than the end of their nose. I have never been a "hawk" on the Indochina conflict, and have even been in on the ground floor of moving the Shea Bill through the Wisconsin Legislature. With this peace-loving group I was suspected of being a CIA agent, booed by the group, and at one point even threatened with being on the menu as "hawk meat."

The "Citizens Conference" was duped by hour after hour of Communist ideology, was very courteous to the North Vietnamese, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, and Laotian and Cambodian Communist student groups, and was openly hostile to the GVN and the American delegations. In fact, none of us was able to question Xuan Thuy and we were able

to question Ambassador David Bruce. In fact, every Communist group was introduced by Candy Puster as "Our friends from . . ." while the group did not even have the courtesy to rise en masse for the South Vietnamese ambassador.

The simple fact is that Hanoi demands that the GVN and the United States agree to their demands before they will begin negotiations. But according to the Peace Conference it is the United States who is "intransigent." The Communists say that they will accept a coalition government made up of those who believe in "peace, independence and freedom" in the present South Vietnamese government. That sounds fine until you discover that it is the Communists who will decide who believes in those virtues.

I will continue to work for peace in my state, but I will not achieve it by being duped into accepting one party line for another.

Rep. Marlin D. Schneider,  
2d Wisconsin District  
Wisconsin Rapids